



MINORITY HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

CO-CHAIRS:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Deborah Correia Morales,
Gloria Hincapie, Emma Simmons, MD, Aleatha Dickerson,
Yvette Mendez, Darrell Thorpe, Julie Rawlings, Annmarie Pereira Sawyer,
Ratsamy Mimi Keointhison, Reginald Tucker-Seeley, ScD, Lara Watkins, PhD,
Tanya L. Dailey, MD, Aradhana Mehta, PhD

Meeting Title:	Minority Health Advisory Committee Meeting	Date:	March 23 rd , 2011
Place:	Department of Health, Director's Conference Room, 4 th Floor	Time:	3 PM-5 PM
Chair Person:	TBD	recorder:	Jenn DeBoer
Members in Attendance:	Reginald-Tucker-Seeley, Linnia Phivilay representing Mary Falvey, Blanche Case representing Darrell Thorpe, Deborah Correia Morales, Stephanie Howie representing Emma Simmons, Lara Watkins, Yvette Mendez, Tanya Dailey, Ratsamy Mimi Keointhisone, Aleatha Dickerson		
Requested Absence:	Julie Rawlings, Aradhana Mehta		
Member Absence:	Gloria Hincapie		
Health Staff: & guest	Rilwan Feyisitan (Chief, Office of Minority Health), Jenn DeBoer (Minority Health Promotion Specialist), Carrie Bridges (Health Disparities and Access to Care Team Lead), Ana Novais (Executive Director of HEALTH), Randi Belhumeur (HEALTH Legislative Liaison), Jackie Fernandes, Michelle Davis, Aaron Davis, Pamela Martinez, Vladimir Ibarra (Lt. Governor's Office)		

KEY POINTS DISCUSSED		
No.	Topic	Highlights
I.	Call meeting to order	Since MHAC has not nominated a Co-chair, Chief, Office of Minority Health called the meeting to order, seconded by one of the MHAC members- Stephanie Howie, representing Emma Simmons.
II.	Review minutes from December meeting	Minutes approved without amendments
III.	Minority Health Advisory Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback of the MHAC annual meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Hosted MHAC Annual meeting on Jan. 24th, 2011. Overall feedback from the end of the meeting was positive. Survey concluded that many attendees discovered many shared work deliverables with the Office of Minority Health (OMH). ✓ Small pockets of Rhode Island consumers and partners still do not know of the relationship between health equity, health disparities and social and environmental determinants of health. ✓ Major complaint- limited parking spots at the Department of Administration.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MHAC new members recruitment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Potential new MHAC members will be sent to the Interim Director of Health for approval. Six MHAC members have completed their full term and have rotated off of the Advisory.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss MHAC Priorities for 2011 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Chief, Office of Minority Health provided an overview of the priorities. Advisory members should resume meetings to address these priorities in their respective subcommittee groups. ✓ A special ad hoc committee will be formed for priority 3.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subcommittee Reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ No report from the subcommittees at this time. Committee members broke into respective subcommittees. Chair of each subcommittee will provide meeting dates to OMH to post. <i>MHAC subcommittees consist of:</i> Legislative subcommittee/ Data subcommittee/ Event & Membership subcommittee/ Emergency Preparedness subcommittee
IV.	Plans for April, Minority Health Month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ OMH will be producing a calendar featuring diverse communities and cultures in RI in celebration of National Minority Health month. ✓ DHHS will launch the National Partnership for Action to Eliminate Health Disparities some time in April.
V.	OMH State Office (OMH) updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 2011 Minority Health Fact Sheets will be published and distributed in mid-April. The Fact sheets will also be accessible through the Department of Health, Office of Minority Health webpage. ✓ A soft launch of the CLAS brochure and "I Speak" Cards to educate the Rhode Island consumers of their Rights to qualified Medical Interpreters will occur in April. Initial launch of the CLAS brochures and "I Speak" cards will consist of 3 languages: Spanish, Portuguese, and French. OMH is looking to the Community Health Workers (CHWs) to assist in the education and distribution of these brochures to their respective communities and constituents. Evaluation and feedback will also be contributed by the CHWs and the consumers who utilize the "I Speak" cards and brochures. ✓ HEALTH is working with JSI, Inc. to produce an analysis of the cost of health disparities to the state. Costs are being calculated in terms of morbidity, mortality, and expenditures. Expenditures will be calculated by replicating a methodology employed by the Urban Institute in a national analysis. This publication will be available in mid to late April. MHAC members Reginald Tucker-Seely and Darrell Thorpe were thanked for their participation on the work group for that analysis.
VI.	State Partners Update	No reports at this time.
VII.	Search for new HEALTH Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ HEALTH continues a national search for the Director of Health. Interim Director of Health is Michael Fine, MD. ✓ Introduce the new HEALTH legislative liaison, Randi Belhumeur. She will assume role of Helen Drew who retired last year.
Next Meeting	Date: April 27 th , 2011 Time: 3 pm – 5 pm Location: Department of Health, Director's Conference Room, 4 th floor, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence	